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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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OLSON HEADS ALASKA SALMON RESTORATION PROGRAM

Clarence L. Olson, general manager of the Pribiloff Islands fur seal operations has been detailed to launch the Alaska salmon restoration program of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay announced today.

The program is directed toward reversing the downward trend of the salmon catch and to revitalize the industry, which is the most important in the Territory.

Conservation measures include complete closure of certain important areas where depletion has reduced runs so there is no surplus beyond spawning needs. In other areas where depletion is less pronounced, trap fishing has been cut 50 percent and seining zones have been closed to increase escapement to give salmon a chance to reach spawning grounds. Fishing intensity has been curbed where there is evidence of declines.

Gov. B. Frank Heintzleman has reported to Secretary McKay salmon cannery operators and fishermen are wholeheartedly supporting the program.

Olson will be assisted during the salmon season by George B. Kelez, who has returned to the Service after three years active Navy duty. Olson will be the immediate representative of Director John L. Farley of the Service on the program and will work with the Service's regional staff in the Territory.

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